REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA AND RECORD OF ACTION

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ITEM 039

May 6, 2003

FROM: MARY R. SAWICKI, Director

Department of Aging and Adult Services

SUBJECT: CONTRACT WITH INLAND EXPRESS SHUTTLE, INC. TO PROVIDE SENIOR

NUTRITION SITE TRANSPORTATION SERVICES

RECOMMENDATION: Approve contract with Inland Express Shuttle, Inc., in the amount of \$52,200 to provide transportation services for seniors to select Department of Aging and Adult Services funded senior nutrition sites from May 7, 2003 through June 30, 2004 (with automobile liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In response to the growing number of older people and their diverse needs, the Older Americans Act (OAA) of 1965 as amended, calls for a range of programs offering services and opportunities for older Americans. As the designated Area Agency on Aging, the Department of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) has received funding from the OAA to provide these programs and opportunities to the oldest residents of San Bernardino County for the last 25 years. The OAA funds are allocated to provide a wide variety of services including nutrition and transportation. Since 1981, the Board of Supervisors has approved funds to provide a specialized transportation program for persons over 60 years of age, who need transportation to DAAS funded senior nutrition sites located in the valley areas of the County.

On December 12, 2002, DAAS conducted an informal solicitation of transportation and community service agencies to provide transportation services to DAAS nutrition sites located in the valley areas of the County (from the Los Angeles County border to Yucaipa), and included an expansion of this service into the Victor Valley. A total of five (5) applications were received and reviewed based on the following criteria: availability, experience, number of vehicles, price, and service area. As a result of this solicitation, Inland Express Shuttle, Inc., has been recommended to provide this service.

Inland Express Shuttle, Inc. has experienced significant difficulty in obtaining the \$10,000,000 Automobile Liability Insurance required by the County (Risk Management). Inland Express has presented an analysis of automobile premiums and insurance levels conducted in February 2002. At that time, the insurance premium for one vehicle with a coverage limit of \$1,000,000 was \$5,000 per vehicle, compared to a coverage limit of \$10,000,000, which cost \$23,000. Since the time this analysis was completed, Inland Express Shuttle, Inc., has experienced a 40% increase in insurance premiums, simply to maintain their current coverage of \$2,000,000 on the nineteen (19) vehicles in their fleet. Clearly, obtaining the additional coverage required by the County is cost prohibitive for a \$52,200 contract.

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Approval of this action will benefit County seniors by allowing DAAS to provide the specialized transportation program to DAAS funded senior nutrition sites located in the valley and the Victor Valley areas of the County from May 7, 2003 through June 30, 2004. In addition, it will allow Inland Express, Inc., to carry automotive insurance at a \$2,000,000 minimum, which is \$500,000 more than the \$1,500,000 limit set by the California State Public Utilities Commission, (the State agency responsible for regulating transportation services) but is less than the minimum currently requested by Risk Management.

REVIEW BY OTHERS: This contract has been reviewed by the Senior Affairs Commission on March 19, 2003; HSS Contract Compliance (Lori Ciabattini, Administrative Supervisor) on April 1, 2003; and the Office of County Counsel (Phebe W. Chu, Deputy County Counsel) on April 2, 2003. The item has been reviewed by the County Administrative Office (Gary Morris, Administrative Analyst) on April 24, 2003; and by HSS Finance (Kristin Letterman, Administrative Manager) on April 29, 2003.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Adequate appropriations and revenues of \$52,200 (\$9,000 for FY 02/03 and \$43,200 for FY03/04) have been included in the approved FY02/03 and the proposed FY03/04 budgets. This program is 100% funded by State and Federal Revenues. There are no additional local costs. The contract amount represents the maximum dollars that can be expended and no number of trips is implied or guaranteed. If this program experiences a reduction in funding, the department will compensate by utilizing the contractor less.

Cost Reduction Review: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends this action because the program is fully funded by Federal and State revenue sources that are not in jeopardy in FY03/04.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT(S): All.

PRESENTER: Mary R. Sawicki, Director, Department of Aging & Adult Services, (909) 891-3917